

REMARKS

The undersigned Applicant's representative thanks Examiner Vo for the telephone conference held on August 11, 2006, at which time claim 11 and the Beutnagel reference were discussed. The applicant proposed the present amendments to the Examiner, who indicated that the amended claims would be allowable.

As discussed, claim 11 is amended to make clear that the second part of the graph is "computed in advance of run-time when the target utterance is known." Under position taken in prior office actions, the "second part of the graph" would correspond to Beutnagel's cache, which is not computed in advance. The Applicant also maintains the position the claim is further allowable because Beutnagel's cache is not a part of a graph, and does not suggest that a subpath of a path can pass through such a cache.

Claim 1 has been cancelled in order to move the application to allowance without conceding the positions taken in the office action in rejection of claim 1 or its dependent claims. Claims formerly depending on claim 1 have been amended to now depend on amended claim 11.

Claim 18 has been amended to correspond to amended claim 11.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 14, 2006

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